

In the Claims:

Cancel, without prejudice, claims 1 - 32¹, and add new claims 33 and 34 as indicated below:

1. (cancelled)

2. (cancelled)

3. (cancelled)

4. (cancelled)

5. (cancelled)

6. (cancelled)

7. (cancelled)

8. (cancelled)

9. (cancelled)

10. (cancelled)

11. (cancelled)

12. (cancelled)

13. (cancelled)

14. (cancelled)

15. (cancelled)

16. (cancelled)

17. (cancelled)

¹ The application as published has only 30 claims, while the "Amended Sheets" show 32 claims. The larger figure is used herein to ensure that all of the claims will be cancelled, it being unclear whether there has been an effective replacement of all of the claims.

18. (cancelled)

19. (cancelled)

20. (cancelled)

21. (cancelled)

22. (cancelled)

23. (cancelled)

24. (cancelled)

25. (cancelled)

26. (cancelled)

27. (cancelled)

28. (cancelled)

29. (cancelled)

30. (cancelled)

31. (cancelled)

32. (cancelled)

33. (new) An electrical connection device for a machine cable, comprising:

a first connector having a first contact;

a second connector having a second contact, the first connector and the second connector being moveable between a disengaged condition in which the first and second contacts are remote from each other

and an engaged condition in which the first and the second contacts are electrically connected; and

a drive for imparting a driving force to drive the first and the second connectors relative to each other whereby the first connector and the second connector move between the disengaged and the engaged positions, the drive comprising a geared arrangement and being arranged to distribute the driving force around at least a portion of at least one of the first and the second connectors.

34. (new) A method of connecting a first electrical connector with a second electrical connector, the first electrical connector having a first contact and the second electrical connector having a second contact, the first connector and the second connector being moveable between a disengaged condition in which the first and second contacts are remote from each other and an engaged condition in which the first and the second contacts are in electrical contact, the method comprising the steps of:

distributing a driving force around at least one of the first and the second connectors; and

driving the first and the second connector relative to each other using a

geared arrangement so that the first connector and the second connector move between the disengaged and the engaged condition.